WEBSTER'S NEW UNIVERSAL UNABRIDGED DICTIONARY

Acknowledgments and Permissions

The "A Dictionary of the English Language" section of this book
(Webster's New Universal Unabridged Dictionary) is based on the second edition of
The Random House Dictionary of the English Language,
the Unabridged Edition, copyright 1993, 1987.

Copyright 1996 by Random House Value Publishing, Inc.
All rights reserved under International and Pan-American Copyright Convenions.

No part of this book may be reproduced or transmitted in any form or by any means electronic or mechanical including photocopying, recording, or by any information storage and retrieval system, without permission in writing from the publisher.

This edition published by Barnes & Noble, Inc. by arrangement with Random House Value Publishing, Inc.

1996 Barnes & Noble Books

ISBN 0-7607-0288-8

Printed and bound in the United States of America

M 9 8 7 6 5

enkōmiast(és), equiv. to enkōmi(on) ENCOMIUM + -astēs agent n. suffix] —en-co/mi-as/tic, adj. —en-co/mi-as/ti-cal-iy, adv.

as'ti-cal-ly, acv.

en-co-mi-en-da (en kō'mē en'da, -kom'ē-; Sp. eng'-kō myen'dā), n., pl. -das (-daz; Sp. -dās). (formerly in Spanish America) 1. the system, instituted in 1503, under which a Spanish soldier or colonist was granted a tract of land or a village together with its Indian inhabitants. 2. the land or village together with its inhabitants. 1800-10; < Sp. charge, commission, recommendation. See En-¹, COMMEND)

cannot see the second of the

kôm(os) a revel + -ton n. suffix]
en-com-pass (en kum/pss), v.t. 1. to form a circle
about; encircle; surround: He built a moat to encompass
the castle. 2. to enclose; envelop: The folds of a great
cloak encompassed her person. 3. to include comprehensively: a work that encompasses the entire range of the
world's religious beliefs. 4. Obs. to outwit. [1545-55;
EN-' + COMPASS] —en-com/pass-ment, n.

en-co-pre-sis (en/kə prē/sis), n., pl. -ses (-sēz). Psychiatry. involuntary defecation. [< NL < Gk en- en-²
+ kōpr(os) dung + -esis, as in enuresis] —en-co-pretic (en/kə pret/ik), adj.

en-core (äng'kôr, -kôr, än'-), interj., n., v., -cored, -cor-ing. —interj. 1. again; once more (used by an audience in calling for an additional number or piece). —n. dence in calling for an additional number or piece). — 2. a demand, as by applause, for a repetition of a song, act, etc., or for a performance of a number or piece additional to those on a program, or for a reappearance by the performers, as at the end of a concert, recital, etc. 3. the performance or reappearance in response to such a demand: He chose a Chopin nocturne for his encore. 4. demand: He chose a Chopin hocturne for his encore. Any repeated or additional performance or appearance, as a rerun of a telecast or a rematch in sports. —v.t. 5. to call for a repetition of. 6. to call for an encore from (a performer). [1705-15; < F: still, yet, besides < L hinc hā hōrā or hinc ad hōram until this hour]

en-coun-ter (en koun/tar), v.t. 1. to come upon or meet with, esp. unexpectedly: to encounter a new situation. 2. to meet with or content against difficulties, opposition, etc.): We encounter so many problems in our work. 3. to meet (a person, military force, etc.) in conflict: We will encounter the enemy at dawn.—v.i. 4. to meet, esp. unexpectedly or in conflict: We were angry when we encountered, but we parted with smiles.—n. 5. a meeting with a person or thing, esp. a casual, unexpected, or brief meeting: Our running into each other was merely a chance encounter. 6. a meeting of persons or groups that are in conflict or opposition; combat; battle: Another such encounter and we may lose the war. 7. Psychol. a meeting of two or more people, as the members of an encounter group or a number of married couples (marriage encounter), conducted to promote direct emotional confrontations among the participants, esp. as a form of therapy (encoun'ter ther'apy). [1250-1300; ME encountren < AF enco(u)ntrer; OF < VL *incontrare, equiv. to in. in. + - contrare, deriv. of contra against; see counters - encoun'ter-er, n. encoun'ter group', Psychol. a group of people who

encoun'ter group', Psychol. a group of people who meet, usually with a trained leader, to increase self-awareness and social sensitivity, and to change behavior through interpersonal confrontation, self-disclosure, and strong emotional expression. [1965–70]

encoun'ter ses/sion, Psychol. a meeting of an encounter group.

en-cour-age (en kûr/ij, -kur/-), v.t., -aged, -ag-ing.

1. to inspire with courage, spirit, or confidence: His coach encouraged him throughout the marathon race to keep on running. 2. to stimulate by assistance, approval, etc.: One of the chief duties of a teacher is to enproval, etc.: One of the chief duties of a teacher is to encourage students. 3. to promote, advance, or foster: Poverty often encourages crime. [1400-50; late ME encoragen < AF, MF encoragilor. See En.', COURAGE]——n-cour'age-n. ——n-cour'ag-ing-ly, adv.—Syn. 1. embolden, hearten, reassure. 2 urge; support, aid, help. —Ant. 1. discourage, dishearten.

en-cour-age-ment (en kūr'ij mənt, -kur'.), n. 1. the act of encouraging. 2. the state of being encouraged. 3. something that encourages: Praise is the greatest encouragement. [1560-70; sncourage + -msnr]—Syn. 3. praise, support, boost, lift, endorsement.

en-crim-son (en krim/zən, -sən), v.t. to make crim-son. [1765-75; gm-1 + CRIMSON]

son. [1765-75; en-' + CRIMSON]

en-cri-nite (en/kro nit/), n. a fossil crinoid. [1800-10;
< NL encrin(us) (< Gk en- en-' + krinon lily) + -tre']

en-croach (en krōch'), v.i. 1. to advance beyond proper, established, or usual limits; make gradual inroads: A dictatorship of the majority is encroaching on the rights of the individual. 2. to trespass upon the property, domain, or rights of another, esp. stealthilly or by gradual advances. [1275-1325; ME encrocher. < AF encrocher. OF encrochier to catch hold of, seize, equiv. to en- en-' + -crochier, v. deriv. of croc hook < Gmc; see CROOKED, CROOK] —en-croach'er, n.

— Syn. 1. 2. See trespass.

en-croach-mant (en krōch/mant) = 1

en-croach-ment (en krôch/ment), n. 1. an act or instance of encroaching. 2. anything taken by encroaching. [1425-75; late ME encrochement < AF. See ENCROACH, MENT]

en croûte (än knoot/), French Cookery. baked in a pastry crust. [< F: lit., in (a) crust]

en-crust (en krust/), v.L. v.i. incrust.

en-crus-ta-tion (en/kru sta/shan), n. incrustation.

en-crypt (en kript'), v.t. to encipher or encode. [1940-45; sn. + -crypt (abstracted from cryptic, cryptography, etc.), modeled on encode] —en-cryption, en/-

en-cul-tu-rate (en kul/cha rāt/), v.t., -rat-ed, -rat-ing. to change, modify, or adapt (behavior, ideas, etc.) by en-

culturation. ation. [back formation from ENCULTURATION]
cui-tu-ra-tive (en kul/chə rā/tiv, -chər ə tiv), adj.

en-cul-tu-ra-tion (en kul/chə rā/shən), n. the process whereby individuals learn their group's culture, through experience, observation, and instruction. [1945–50; EN-(AC)CULTURATION]

+ (AC)CULTURATION]

en-cum-ber (en kum'ber), v.t. 1. to impede or hinder; hamper; retard: Red tape encumbers all our attempts at action. 2. to block up or fill with what is obstructive or superfluous: a mind encumbered with trivial and useless information. 3. to burden or weigh down: She was encumbered with a suitcase and several packages. 4. to burden with obligations, debt, etc. Also, Incumber. [1300-50; ME encombren < AF, MF encombrer, equiv. to en-En-'+-combrer, v. deriv. of combre dam, weir < early MI. combrus < Gaulish 'comberos confluence, bringing together (cf. Quimper, in Brittany < Breton Kemper); see Com-, BEAR¹] — en-cum-ber-ing-ty, adv. en-cum-brance (en kum/brans) n. 1. something

en-cum-brance (en kum/brans), n. 1. something that encumbers; something burdensome, useless, or superfluous; burden; hindrance: Poverty was a lifelong encumbrance. 2. a dependent person, esp. a child. 3. Law. a burden or claim on property, as a mortgage. Also, incumbrance. [1275-1325; ME encombrance < MF encumbrance. See ENCUMBER, -ANCE]

en-cum-branc-er (en kum/bren ser), n. Law. a person, who holds an encumbrance. [1855-60; ENCUMBRANCE + -ER¹]

ency, a noun suffix, equivalent to ence: consistency; dependency; exigency. [-ENCE + -Y²]

ency., encyclopedia. Also, encyc., encycl.

ency-encyclopedia. Also, encyc., encycl.

en-cyc-li-cal (en sik/li kal. -sir/kli-), n. 1. Rom. Cath.

Ch. a letter addressed by the pope to all the bishops of the church. —adj. 2. (of a letter) intended for wide or general circulation; general. Also, encyc-lic. [1610-20; < LL encyclicus (< Gk enkylklios, with -icus -ic for -ios, equiv. to en- En-2 kykl(os) circle, CYCLE + -ios adj. suffix) + -AL'!

suffix) + -AL']
en-cy-clo-pa-di-a (en si/klə pā/dē ə), n. 1. a book or set of books containing articles on various topics, usually in alphabetical arrangement, covering all branches of knowledge or, less commonly, all aspects of one subject. 2. (cap.) the French work edited by Diderot and D'Alembert, published in the 18th century, distinguished by its representation of the views of the Enlightenment. Also, en-cy/clo-pae/di-a. [1525-35; < NL encyclopaedia < Gk enkyklopaidia, a misreading of enkyklios paideia circular (i.e., well-rounded) education. See ENCYCLICAL well-rounded) education. See ENCYCLICAL,

en-cy-clo-pe-dic (en si/kla pē/dik), adj. en-cy-clo-pe-dic (en si/klə pē/dik), adj. 1. pertaining to or of the nature of an encyclopedia; relating to all branches of knowledge. 2. comprehending a wide variety of information; comprehensive: an encyclopedic memory. Also, en-cy/clo-pae/dic, en-cy/clo-pe/di-cal, en-cy/clo-pae/dical, en-cy/clo-pe/di-cal, lali-25; kncyclo-pe/di-cal, en-cy/clo-pe/di-cal-ly, en-cy/clo-pae/di-cal-ly, adv.—Syn. 2. all-embracing, all-inclusive, exhaustive, wide-ranging. wide-ranging.

en-cy-clo-pe-dism (en si/klə pē/diz əm), n. 1. ency-clopedic learning. 2. (often cap.) the doctrines and influence of the Encyclopedists. Also, en-cy/clo-pae/dism. [1825-35; ENCYCLOPED(IA) + -ISM]

en-cy-cio-pe-dist (en si'kle pê'dist), n. 1. a compiler of or contributor to an encyclopedia. 2. (often cap.) one of the collaborators on the French Encyclopedia Also, en-cy'clo-pae'dist. [1645-55; ENCYCLOPED(IA) + -IST].

en-cyst (en sist/), v.t., v.i. Biol. to enclose or become enclosed in a cyst. [1835-45; EN-' + CYST] —en-cyst/ment. en/cys-ta/tion. n.

enclosed in a cyst. [1835-45; EN-1 + CYST] — encyst/ment. en/cyst-2/tion, n.

end¹ (end), n. 1. the last part or extremity, lengthwise, of anything that is longer than it is wide or broad: the end of a street; the end of a rope. 2. a point, line, or something; limit; bounds: kindness without end; to walk from end to end of a city. 3. a part or place at or adjacent to an extremity: at the end of the table; the west end of town. 4. the furthermost imaginable place or point: an island at the very end of the world. 5. termination; conclusion: The journey was coming to an end. 6. the concluding part: The end of her speech had to be cut short because of time. 7. an intention or aim: to gain one's ends. 8. the object for which a thing exists; purpose: The happiness of the people is the end of government. 9. an outcome or result: What is to be the end of all this bickering? 10. termination of existence; death: He met a horrible end. 11. a cause of death, destruction, or ruin: Another war would be the end of civilization. 12. a remnant or fragment: mill end; ends and trimmings. 13. a share or part in something: He does his end of the job very well. 14. Textiles. a warp thread running vertically and interlaced with the filling yarn in the woven fabric. 15. Football. a. either of the linemen stationed farthest from the center. b. the position played by this lineman. 16. Archery, the number of arrows to be shot by a competitor during one turn in a match. 17. Cricket: a wicket, esp. the one where the batsman is taking a turn. 18. a unit of a game, as in curling or lawn bowling. 19. Kantianism. any rational being, regarded as worthy to exist for its own sake. 20. either half of a domino. 21. Knots the part of a rope, beyond a knot or the like, that is not used. 22. at loose ends, without an occupation or plans; unsettled; uncertain: He spent two years wandering about the country at loss ends. 23. at one's wits end, at the end of one's ideas or mental resources, perplexed: I'm. at my wits's end with the loading platform. 26.

ing his end up. 30. make an end of, to conclude; stop: Let's make an end of this foolishness and get down to work. 31. make ends meet, to live within one's means: Let's make an end of this footismess and get action to work. 31. make ends meet, to live within one's means. Despite her meager income, she tried to make ends meet. Also, make both ends meet. 32. no end, Informal very much or many: They were pleased no end by the warm reception. 33. on end, a having the end down; upright: to stand a box on end, b. continuously; successively: They talked for hours on end. 34. put an end to, to cause to stop; terminate; finish: The advent of sound in motion pictures put an end to many a silent star's career. 35. the end, Slang, the ultimate; the utmost of good or bad: His stupidity is the end.

—u.t. 36. to bring to an end or conclusion: We ended the discussion on a note of optimism. 37. to put an end to; terminate: This was the bottle that ended the war. 38. to form the end of: This passage ends the novel. 39. to cause the demise of; kill: A bullet through the heart ended him. 40. to constitute the most outstanding or greatest possible example or instance of (usually used in the infinitive): You just committed the blunder to end all blunders.

the infinitive): You just committed the blunder to end all blunders.

—v.i. 41. to come to an end; terminate; cease: The road ends at Rome. 42. to issue or result: Extravagance ends in want. 43. to reach or arrive at a final condition, circumstance, or goal (often fol. by up): to end up in the army, to end as a happy person.

—adj. 44. final or ultimate: the end result. [bef. 900; ME, OE ende; c. OFris enda, MD e(i)nde, OS endi, OHG anti, G Ende, ON endi(r). Goth andeis end < Gmc anthjá-; akin to Skt ánta- end] —end/er, n.

—Syn. 4. tip, bound, limit, terminus. 5. End, close, conclusion, finish, outcome refer to the termination of something. End implies a natural termination or completion, or an attainment of purpose: the end of a day, of a race; to some good end. Close often implies a planned rounding off of something in process: the close of a conference. Conclusion suggests a decision or arrangement: All evidence leads to this conclusion; the conclusion of peace terms. Finish emphasizes completion of something begun: a fight to the finish. Outcome suggests the issue of something that was in doubt: the outcome of a game. 7. See alm.

end² (end), v.t. Brit. Dial. to put wheat, hay, or other

end² (end), v.t. Brit. Dial. to put wheat, hay, or other grain into a stack or barn. [1600-10; perh. var. of dial. in to harvest (OE innian to lodge, put up). See INN]

end-, var. of endo- before a vowel: endameba.

end., endorsed.

end-all (end/6l/), n. 1. the ultimate purpose, object, or conclusion: Money is the be-all and end-all of his existence. 2. something that brings things to such an end or conclusion. [1595–1605]

en-dam-age (en dam-ij), v.t., -aged, -ag-ing. to dam-age. [1325-75; ME < AF; see EN-1, DAMAGE]

age. [1320-16; ME Ar, see sar, bakers]

end-a-me-ba (en/da me/ba), n., pl. -bae (-bē), -bas.

Biol. any protozoan of the genus Endamoeba, members of which are parasitic in the digestive tracts of various invertebrates, including cockroaches and termites. Also, end/a-moe/ba. [< NL (1879); see END-, AMEBA]—end/a-me/bic, end/a-moe/bic, adj.

end-an-ge-i-tis (en/dan jē i/tis), n. Pathol. an inflammation of the innermost lining of a blood vessel. Also, end-an-gi-tis (en/dan ji/tis), end/an-gi-i/tis. [END-+ angeitis; see ANGI-, -ITIS]

en-dan-ger (en dan/jär), v.t. to expose to danger; imperii: It was foolish to endanger your life in that way. [1400-50; late ME; see En-', DANGER] —en-dan/ger-

-Syn. threaten, jeopardize, hazard, risk.

endan-gered (en dān'jərd), adj. 1. threatened with a danger: endangered lives of trapped coal miners. 2. threatened with extinction: The bald eagle may be endangered. [1590-1600; ENDANGER + -ED]

endan/gered spe/cies, a species at risk of extinction because of human activity, changes in climate, changes in predator-prey ratios, etc., esp. when officially designated as such by a governmental agency such as the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. [1965-70]

end-a-or-ti-tis (en/dā ôr ti/tis), n. Pathol. an inflammation of the innermost lining of the aorta. [END- + AORT(A) + -ITIS]

end-arch (en/därk), adj. Bot. (of a primary xylem or root) developing from the periphery; having the oldest cells closest to the core. [1895-1900; smp-+-arch having a point of origin (as specified)]—end/ar-chy. n.

end' around', Football a play on offense in which an end, after running into the backfield, takes a handoff and attempts to run around the opposite end of the line.

end-ar-ter-ec-to-my (en där/tə rek/tə mē), n., pl.
-mies. the surgical stripping of a fat-encrusted, thickened arterial lining so as to open or widen the artery for
improved blood circulation. (1955-60; ENDARTER(IUM) + -ECTOMY!

end-ar-te-ri-um (en/där tër/ë əm), n, pl. -te-ri-a (-tër/ë ə). Anat the innermost lining of an artery. [< NL; see end-, artery] —end/ar-te/ri-al, adj.

en' dash', Print. a dash one en long.

end-blown (end/blon/), adj. (of a flute) having a mouthpiece at the end of the tube so that the player blows into the instrument. Cf. transverse (def. 2).

end-brain (end/bran/), n. the telencephalon. [1925—30; trans. of TELENCEPHALON]

end' brush', Cell Biol. an abundant, tuftlike branching at the axon ending of certain nerve cells. [1880–85] end bulb. Anat. any of various types of oval or

concise Pronunciation Ext. act, cape, dare, part, set, equal; if, ice, ox, over, order, oil, book, book out up, orge, child; sing, shoe; thin, that; the as in treasure, a = a as in alone, e as in system, i as in ensity, o as in gollop, u as in circus; as in fire (fi*), hour (ou*), l and n can serve as syllabic consonants, as in cradle (krād*l), and button (but*n). See the full key inside the front cover.